Tips for Fulbright Applicants

1. Make sure your proposal is doable, both in scope and feasibility. Mention why this proposed area of inquiry/study/research will be significant for you, and for your field.

2. It should be connected to your previous study, and to your future plans.

3. It should contain adequate background info about you and also include a hypothesis you plan to test (like, "Completion of elementary school reduces AIDS rates in Indian females", rather than something vague like, "I want to study women's issues in India").

4. It should envision a final product: an article, a presentation, a white paper, data collected as the basis of further study/analysis, etc. - something that *results* from the Fulbright year.

5. It should reflect the fact that you've done your homework: if there are other studies being conducted in your field of interest, mention them and the people who are conducting that research.

6. It should mention your relevant language preparation and how that will be of use.

7. During your on-campus in-person interview, you should have tight, succinct and well-articulated answers to "What are you proposing?" and "Why did you apply for this grant?" and "Why would this be significant to the field?" (you'd be amazed at the number of people who stumble over these, the only *predictable* questions!)

8. If you can line up a professor, govt. official, archivist, or whomever in the host country, and include an e-mail from her saying, "I would be delighted to work with you on your project", then your stock with the review committees goes up.

9. If you've had previous overseas experience, mention it (briefly) and the lessons you learned that you will apply to your Fulbright year/project.

10. Provide the faculty members who will write your letters of recommendation with a draft of your proposal. Then incorporate their feedback to improve your proposal. Then make sure they have a copy of your final proposal so that they can be specific in their comments about your suitability to carry out your program of study/research.

11. Apply on-line to gain access to the periodic and helpful Fulbright e-mail newsletters for applicants.

Compiled by: David Fenner, Director
The Office of International Education
University of Washington
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